

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday April 25th 2021

IRTS Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Irish Radio Transmitters Society was held yesterday, Saturday April 24th on the Zoom platform with 70 members in attendance. The enjoyable event, produced by Dave EI4BZ and Rafal EI1813, was well received and deemed a great success. The main business of the meeting was the adoption of the committee and treasurers reports and the election of the committee for the coming year. Jim Holohan EI4HH was elected as President for his final year while Declan Horan EI9FVB was elected as Vice President. Committee members elected were: Pat Fitzpatrick EI2HX, Sean Byrne EI2HZB, Michael Goss EI2JM, Harry O'Loughlin EI2KL, Joe Fadden, EI3IX, Steve Wright EI5DD, Dave O'Connor EI6AL, Niall Donohue EI6HIB, John Ronan EI7IG, Gerry Gervin EI8CC and Larry McGriskin EI9CN. Jobs will be allocated at the first meeting of the new committee. We will carry more details of the meeting in future bulletins.

EI News

The monthly online EI News publication is distributed on the first day of each month to all IRTS members who supplied an email address to the membership records officer. The May issue is currently being prepared by Editor Steve Wright EI5DD and news of any upcoming activities should be sent to Steve at newsteam at irts dot ie. An archive of all the published EI News publications since the first issue in May 2013 is available to view at www.irts.ie

IRTS Contest News

Results of the IRTS 2 metres 'Home QTH' distance-scoring contest held on Easter Monday were announced by Contest Manager Joe Ryan EI7GY during the past week. Despite fairly flat band conditions on the day, there was a high level of participation, particularly on the FM channels. 34 logs were submitted, a record number for our Easter Monday 2 metres contest, and these logs show that, excluding uniques, 68 EI and GI stations took part. Our Contest Results page at www.irts.ie/results has links to the detailed results for this event. The next IRTS contest is our 40 metres Counties Contest, on Sunday 9th May at 1200 UTC, for one hour.

Shannon Basin Club Nets

The popular Shannon Basin Radio Club nets on top band and 80 metres are coming to an end for the summer months. As the evenings are getting longer and QRM is increasing, the last top band net will be on tomorrow, Monday April 26th, and the last 80 metre net will be on Thursday next April 29th. Both nets will resume again in the autumn. The club's two meter net will move to Sunday evenings at 2000 from Sunday next May 2nd. This net will continue to be on the club's repeater EI2CAR located at Castlerea, County Roscommon. The output is on 145.775MHz and the access tone is 88.5Hz

UKEICC 80m CW Contest on Wednesday Next April 28th

The UKEI Contest Club run one hour 80 metre contests both on SSB and CW every month from September to April. The contests run from 2000 to 2100 and logs must be submitted by 2200. The logs are then adjudicated, and final scores are published by 2300. The April UKEICC monthly 80 metres CW contest will be held on Wednesday next the 28th from 2000 to 2100. The exchange is your 6-character Grid Locator and no signal report should be sent. Operation is confined to the band segment 3.510 to 3.560MHz. GW4J and the UKEICC callsign EI5G will be bonus stations in this contest. EI5G will be operated by Paul O'Kane EI5DI. Please join in and support the effort. See ukeicc.com for further information. Only six EI stations entered logs in the March contest so here's hoping for a few more for the last UKEICC 80 metres contest of this series.

On the Air next week

The 10-10 International CW Spring Contest will be held on Saturday and Sunday next May 1st and 2nd starting at 0001 Zulu and finishing at 2359 Zulu on Sunday. 10-10 Members will give name plus 10-10 number and state, province or country. Non-members give name plus zero plus state, province or country. This contest is on 10 metres only. PSK operators can compete in the F9AA Cup Contest next weekend from 1200 Zulu on Saturday to 1200 Zulu on Sunday. The exchange is report and serial number. The Italian ARI International DX Contest on CW, SSB and RTTY will run for 24 hours from 1200 Zulu on Saturday next. The exchange for non-Italian station is report plus serial number and Italian stations will send report and 2 letter province abbreviation.

DX news Ali, EP3CQ, will once again be active as 6O1OO (6 oscar 1 oscar oscar) from Somalia starting sometime in May. He returns to Mogadishu on April

25th, and expects to be operational after his quarantine at the end of the month.

The radio club ARI of Vinci announces that, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this year the usual radio transmissions using the special callsign II5LDV generally performed from Anchiano, Florence, the birthplace of the genius Leonardo Da Vinci will be made by the members of the radio club. They will take turns in the air on the various frequency bands and transmission modes and via satellite from their radio stations during the month of April. As every year there will be a special QSL card. The QSL manager is IQ5LV.

8N1MORSE will be active from many districts of Japan until the end of February 2022. This special amateur radio station is to promote the Morse Communication activities in 2021 and commemorate the 230th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Morse, the 120th anniversary of the Guglielmo Marconi's first successful transatlantic radio communication by Morse Code, etc. Full details on www.8n1morse.org

Tom, OH6VDA/LA6VDA, will once again be active as JW6VDA from the JW5E club station in Longyearbyen (JQ78tf) on Spitsbergen Island (Europe-026) between April 26th and May 9th. Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB and FT8/FT4. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, ClubLog's OQRS or QRZ.com log. Bureau cards via LA6VDA. Reports are coming in that Steve, VK6SJ, will be active as VK9XX from Christmas Island (OC-002) between May 7-28th. Activity will be concentrated on FT8 on 80/40/30 meters during his spare time. He will be using a FT-857D with a vertical antenna. QSL via EB7DX.

Wanted: DX Editor for Echo Ireland

Echo Ireland Editor Veronica Holohan is still seeking a volunteer to fill the role of DX correspondent for the quarterly IRTS publication. If you are interested, please email newsteam at irts dot ie. Our thanks to outgoing correspondent Don Brennan EI6IL who did an outstanding job writing 'HF Happenings' since Summer 2018. Articles for publication in Echo Ireland are always very welcome and the deadline for inclusion in the summer edition is May 30th.

Visalia DX Convention 2021

Many DXers have a visit to the Visalia DX Convention on their wish list. This year, the 72nd meeting of this famous International DX Convention, sponsored by the Northern California DX Club (NCDXC) will be held on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16, via Zoom webinars. Registration is now open at dxconvention.com. In addition to a safe, front-row seat without having to leave home, participants will be

able to attend eight DX-related webinars on Saturday, eight vendor webinars on Sunday and will be eligible for door prizes. Advance registration is required. All webinars will be recorded and posted later to the NCDXC website.

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam/at/irts/dot/ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is midnight on Thursday. Urgent items for the news may be telephoned to News Editor Dave EI4BZ on 087-6290574.

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